

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 687

To direct the Secretary of Defense to eliminate the backlog in satisfying requests of former members of the Armed Forces for the issuance or replacement of military medals and decorations.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 23, 1999

Mr. HARKIN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to eliminate the backlog in satisfying requests of former members of the Armed Forces for the issuance or replacement of military medals and decorations.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Expedited
5 Military Medals Act of 1999”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIMINATION OF BACKLOG IN REQUESTS FOR RE-**
2 **PLACEMENT OF MILITARY MEDALS AND**
3 **OTHER DECORATIONS.**

4 (a) SUFFICIENT RESOURCING REQUIRED.—The Sec-
5 retary of Defense shall make available funds and other
6 resources at the levels that are necessary for ensuring the
7 elimination of the backlog of the unsatisfied requests made
8 to the Department of Defense for the issuance or replace-
9 ment of military decorations for former members of the
10 Armed Forces. The organizations to which the necessary
11 funds and other resources are to be made available for
12 that purpose are as follows:

- 13 (1) The Army Reserve Personnel Command.
14 (2) The Bureau of Naval Personnel.
15 (3) The Air Force Personnel Center.
16 (4) The National Archives and Records Admin-
17 istration

18 (b) CONDITION.—The Secretary shall allocate funds
19 and other resources under subsection (a) in a manner that
20 does not detract from the performance of other personnel
21 service and personnel support activities within the Depart-
22 ment of Defense.

23 (c) REPLACEMENT DECORATION DEFINED.—For the
24 purposes of this section, the term “decoration” means a
25 medal or other decoration that a former member of the

1 Armed Forces was awarded by the United States for mili-
2 tary service of the United States.

3 **SEC. 3. REPORT.**

4 Not later than 45 days after the date of the enact-
5 ment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit
6 to Congress a report on the status of the backlog described
7 in section 2(a). The report shall include a plan for elimi-
8 nating the backlog.

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